

Pneumatic Air Nail Gun Safety

One of the most popular and highly used tools in both light and heavy construction is the pneumatic or compressed air nail gun. In simple terms, these nailing devices use compressed air to power them versus electricity or powder actuated. With the increased use and availability over recent years, the number of accidents resulting from these devices has increased.

Following several basic DO's and DON'TS can reduce the potential for these accidents.

DO:

- Review the operators' manual carefully. Demonstrate operation to a first-time user to be sure they understand safe operation of the tool.
- Always wear safety glasses.
- Keep people out of range of fire.
- Disconnect the air hose before clearing a jam or adjusting.
- Use only compressed air, not bottled gas.
- Keep your free hand out of the way of the tool.
- Nail top to bottom on walls.
- Nail eaves to ridge on roofs.
- Move forward, not backward on horizontal areas.
- Secure the hose when on scaffolds.

DO NOT:

- Hold the trigger down unless purposefully firing the tool.
- Point the tool at anyone – treat it like a firearm!
- Fire the tool unless the nose is firmly pressed against the work piece.
- Exceed the manufacturer's specified air pressure for the tool.
- Operate around flammables.

SAFETY - FIRST, FOREMOST AND FOREVER

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